

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A deodorant composition comprising, as an active component, a colored compound obtainable by reacting a polyphenol and at least one amino acid selected from the group consisting of glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, glutamine, asparagine, serine, threonine, lysine, hydroxylysine, arginine, histidine, cystine, methionine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, proline, 4-hydroxyproline, cysteine, theanine, sodium glutamate, and sodium aspartate, in a solvent showing alkalinity in the coexistence of oxygen molecules at a reaction pH value of 6.5 or more.

2. (original): The deodorant composition according to claim 1, wherein an oxygen molecule supplying amount during the reaction is 1 mg/L or more.

3. (original): The deodorant composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of 0 to 60°C.

4. (previously presented): The deodorant composition according to claim 1, wherein a metal ion is further added to the reaction system and the reaction is carried out.

5. (previously presented): The deodorant composition according to claim 1, wherein the polyphenol is a polyphenol having an o-diphenol structure.

6. (previously presented): The deodorant composition according to claim 1, wherein the polyphenol is hydroquinone.

7. (withdrawn; original): A deodorant composition comprising, as an active component, a colored compound obtainable by reacting a plant extract containing a polyphenol but containing substantially no amino acid in a solvent showing alkalinity in the coexistence of oxygen molecules at a reaction pH value of 6.5 or more.

Claims 8-9 (canceled).

10. (withdrawn; original): A deodorant composition comprising, as an active component, a colored compound obtainable by reacting a plant extract and/or a plant body containing a polyphenol and an amino acid in a solvent showing alkalinity in the coexistence of oxygen molecules at a reaction pH value of 6.5 or more.

11. (new): A method for deodorizing a malodor component which comprises using a composition comprising, as an active component, a color compound obtaining by reacting a polyphenol and an amino acid in a solvent showing alkalinity in the coexistence of oxygen molecules at a reaction pH value of 6.5 or more.

12. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the amino acid is an  $\alpha$ -amino acid.

13. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein an oxygen molecule supplying amount during the reaction is 1 mg/L or more.

14. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of 0 to 60°C.

15. (new): The method according to claim 13, wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of 0 to 60°C.

16. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein a metal ion is further added to the reaction system and the reaction is carried out.

17. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the polyphenol is a polyphenol having an o-diphenol structure.

18. (new): The method according to claim 11, wherein the polyphenol is hydroquinone.

19. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein an oxygen molecule supplying amount during the reaction is 1 mg/L or more.

20. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of 0 to 60°C.

21. (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of 0 to 60°C.

22. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein a metal ion is further added to the reaction system and the reaction is carried out.

23. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein the polyphenol is a polyphenol having an o-diphenol structure.

24. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein the polyphenol is hydroquinone.